

Dear Parents,

Your child has expressed an interest in participating in the Algona Community School District National Geographic Bee. The school-level competition of the National Geographic Bee will be held sometime in January 2010. The school-level Bee, at which students answer oral questions on geography, is the first round in the annual National Geographic Bee. The practices for the bee will be held weekly. The first one will be after school at O.B. Laing Middle School upstairs in Room 24 on Wednesday, October 14, at 3:30 -4:30 p.m. [Lucia Wallace students may ride the bus from LW to the middle school.] At that time those who attend will set the day of the week and the time (before or after school) that works best for the group to practice.

Anyone can brush up on geography with GeoBee Challenge, an online geography quiz at www.nationalgeographic.com/geobee, which poses new questions every day from previous National Geographic Bees. The GeoBee Challenge board game, sold at Amazon.com and on eBay, also provides geography fun for the whole family. The board game won the prestigious Parents' Choice Award when it was created in 2002.

Thousands of schools around the United States and in the five U.S. territories usually participate in the school rounds of Bees. The school winners take a written test with up to 100 of the top scorers in each state eligible to compete in their state Bee in late March. The National Geographic Society will provide an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., for state champions and teacher-escorts to participate in the National Geographic Bee national championship in late May. The first-place national winner will receive a \$25,000 college scholarship and a lifetime membership in the National Geographic Society.

Please sign this letter and return it if your son/daughter has permission to practice and participate in the ACSD National Geographic Bee. Our school must have at least six participants in our school NG Bee to be eligible for state competition.

If you have questions, please contact me 295-9447 or at home 295-3255 or via e-mail: cvandeventer@algona.k12.ia.us.

Sincerely,

Chris VanDeventer
ELC/TAG Coordinator/Teacher

_____ (student's name) has my
permission to attend practices at O.B.Laing Middle School and participate
in the ACSD National Geographic Bee.

(parent/guardian's name)

(date)